

Filed for intro on 05/11/95  
House Bill \_\_\_\_\_  
By \_\_\_\_\_

Senate No. SJR0219  
By Dixon

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Ruthie Mae DeBerry for her meritorious service to the Memphis community.

WHEREAS, it is not often that a community is blessed with a truly dedicated humanitarian such as Mrs. Ruthie Mae DeBerry, who as an educator, community servant, and exemplary citizen has touched the lives of many with her incredible spirit; and

WHEREAS, for her lifetime of contributions to Memphis, Shelby County and the state of Tennessee, Mrs. DeBerry has earned the respect of this Assembly and the citizens of our great state; and

WHEREAS, realizing the importance of education at an early age, Mrs. DeBerry attended LeMoyne-Owen College, Rust College and Mississippi Industrial College, where she earned her bachelor of science degree; she has pursued graduate studies at the University of Memphis, LeMoyne-Owen College and Trevecca Nazarene College; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeBerry embarked upon her noteworthy career in elementary education in Tate County, Mississippi before returning to Tennessee to teach in the Memphis City and Shelby County school systems; and

WHEREAS, a voice of integrity in education, Mrs. DeBerry proved to be a valuable asset to the school systems in Memphis and Shelby County as she gave unreservedly of herself to the children of Douglass Elementary, LaRose Elementary, and Lakeview Elementary schools for more than 30 years; and

WHEREAS, until her retirement in February of 1995, Mrs. DeBerry spent her last seventeen years as a highly regarded teacher at Lakeview Elementary; during her exceptional tenure she served as chairman of the Honor Roll Society; chairman of the American Education Week Program and Arbor Day events; grade chairman for second, third and fourth grades; chairman of the math department; S.A.C.S. steering committee chairman; P.T.O. vice-president; chairman of the Reading is Fundamental program; and leader of the drill team, softball team, and various other important programs; and

WHEREAS, a true credit to the education profession, Mrs. DeBerry was selected by former students to Who's Who Among America's Teachers in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeBerry has revealed herself as a diligent upholder of the great volunteer tradition of the state of Tennessee by devoting many years of her life to such fine organizations as the Lincoln League, the Democratic Club, the N.A.A.C.P., S.C.L.C., the 26th Ward Civic Club, and the Memphis Park Commission; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeBerry has not only shown her commitment to her profession and community, she has also shown, through her selfless commitment to Memphis churches, her commitment to God; and

WHEREAS, a concerned person whose willingness to help knows no bounds, Mrs. DeBerry has blessed several churches with her time and incredible talents as a choir member, Sunday School teacher and missionary worker; she has served faithfully at Mt. Lebo Missionary Baptist Church, Mt. Vernon Missionary Baptist Church, Middle Baptist Missionary Baptist Church, Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church, and Tree of Life Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeBerry proudly shares the many joys and triumphs in her life with her husband of more than fifty years, Major DeBerry; together they have raised four productive and successful children, Major M. DeBerry, Carolyn T. Bell, Franklin D. DeBerry and Gary O. DeBerry; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DeBerry is truly an outstanding individual and model Tennessean whose life serves as a shining example of the virtues of hard work and dedication; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor Mrs. Ruthie Mae DeBerry for her numerous contributions to education, church, family, and the entire community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final resolving clause omitted from such copy.